

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-28, 30-31, 33-34, 37, and 39-42 were previously pending in the application. Claims 11 and 23 are canceled; claims 1, 12-13, 16, and 22 are amended; and new claim 43 is added herein. Assuming the entry of this amendment, claims 1-10, 12-28, 30-31, 33-34, 37, and 39-43 are now pending in the application. The Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and these remarks.

In paragraph 3 of the office action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 8, 18-20, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Elko. In paragraph 5, the Examiner rejected claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Elko. In paragraph 6, the Examiner rejected claim 23 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Narendra. In paragraph 7, the Examiner objected to claims 4-8, 10-17, and 21 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that those claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In paragraph 8, the Examiner allowed claims 24-28, 30-31, 33-34, 37, and 39-42. For the following reasons, the Applicant submits that all of the now-pending claims are allowable over the cited references.


Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of previously pending claim 11. As such, currently amended claim 1 is equivalent to previously pending claim 11 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 11 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that currently amended claim 1 is allowable. Claim 22 has been similarly amended. As such, the Applicant submits that currently amended claim 22 is also allowable. Since claims 2-10 and 12-21 depend variously from claim 1, it is further submitted that those claims are also allowable.

New claim 43 is equivalent to previously pending claim 10 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 10 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that new claim 43 is allowable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant believes that the now-pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the Applicant believes that the entire application is now in condition for allowance, and early and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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